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Serial No. : 09/077,572
Filed : June 1, 1998
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Attorney's Docket No. 17023-002US1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-35 (Cancelled)

36. (Previously presented) A method for producing antisera containing antibodies specific to a mutant endotoxin from an *htrB* mutant non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae*, the method comprising

(a) immunizing an individual with a formulation comprising: (1) an *htrB* mutant non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* having a mutant endotoxin, (2) the mutant endotoxin, or (3) the mutant endotoxin conjugated to a carrier protein, wherein the mutant endotoxin contains a decreased phosphoethanolamine content and an increased hexose content in the mutant endotoxin's inner core, and a pentaacylated or tetraacylated lipid A lacking one or two secondary acyl chains compared to the corresponding wild-type non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* hexaacylated endotoxin, and wherein the mutant endotoxin has substantially reduced toxicity as compared to the wild-type non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* hexaacylated endotoxin; and

(b) collecting the antisera containing the antibodies from the immunized individual.

37. (New) A conjugate of a mutant endotoxin from an *htrB* mutant of non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* conjugated to a carrier protein, wherein the mutant endotoxin contains a decreased phosphoethanolamine content and an increased hexose content in the mutant endotoxin's inner core, and a pentaacylated or tetraacylated lipid A lacking one or more secondary acyl chains compared to the corresponding wild-type non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* hexaacylated endotoxin, and wherein the mutant endotoxin has substantially reduced toxicity as compared to the hexaacylated endotoxin of the wild-type non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae*.

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38. (New) A method for preparing a conjugate of claim 37 comprising purifying a mutant endotoxin from an *htrB* mutant of non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* by phenol water extraction or protease digestion to provide a purified mutant endotoxin, wherein the mutant endotoxin contains a decreased phosphoethanolamine content and an increased hexose content in the mutant endotoxin's inner core, and a pentaacylated or tetraacylated lipid A lacking one or more secondary acyl chains compared to the corresponding wild-type non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* hexaacylated endotoxin, and wherein the mutant endotoxin has substantially reduced toxicity as compared to the hexaacylated endotoxin of the wild-type non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae*, and conjugating the purified mutant endotoxin to a carrier protein.